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The solar eclipse taking place over N. America brings about the launch of the 8th generation Intel Core chips, starting with mobile processors promising a 40% performance boost over the previous generation.



Designed for notebooks and hybrid devices, the "U-series" consists of 4 processors featuring a thermal design power (TDP) of 15W. Intel says the new Core i5 and i7 processors can lead to notebooks and tablets with up to 10 hours of battery life, as well as the aforementioned performance boost.

All the revealed processors are quad-core, with support for 8 threads and updated UHD 620 graphics. This makes them more suited for games, 4K video playback, VR and video editing. The Core i7-8650U and i7-8550U have 1.9 and 1.8GHz base clock speeds respectively (up to 4.2 and 4.0GHz in boost mode) and also include 8mb of L3 cache.

Meanwhile the the i5-8350U and i5-8250U chips sport base clock speeds of 1.7 and 1.6GHz (3.6 and 3.4GHz boos). The L3 cache is lower at 6mb, and while GPU base clock speed is the same as the i7 chips at 300MHz.

The architecture making these chips is actually refresh of the previous Kaby Lake built using a 14nm+ processors. Later releases will also come in 14nm+++ (Coffee Lake) and 10nm (Cannon Lake).

Intel says the first laptops using 8th generation Core chips should hit the market from September 2017. Information on other, upcoming products, such as desktop and enterprise

chips, will only be available later.

Go New 8th Gen Intel Core Processors